

## I. Major capital projects underway in FY 2010

William Paterson University continues to direct its efforts towards capital improvements identified by the Student Success Plan and the Facilities Master Plan. Both plans recognize the continually growing student demand for modern campus facilities that are conducive to learning. The University's new President, Dr. Waldron, announced that a new cycle of strategic planning will begin during the current fiscal year. The university-wide strategic planning process will result in a renewed capital project priority schedule that will replace the current Facilities Master Plan, which was completed in 2003.



Artist's rendition of renovated Science Building

In July 2010, the new Science addition opened its doors to both students and faculty. This state-of-the-art 65,000 square foot facility includes 12 classroom laboratories, 27 research laboratories, and 7 large classrooms in the fields of biology, biotechnology, molecular research, physics, tissue culture, physical, analytical and organic chemistry, physiology, environmental science and ecology, and instrumentation. Research and laboratory spaces have been configured to maximize the collaboration between faculty and students. The new facility also has provided the opportunity for new lab equipment, safety improvements, and implementing classroom technology.

The renovation of the existing Science Hall is underway and is scheduled to be completed next fiscal year. The building will be upgraded, and a number of classrooms will be resized to provide much-needed classrooms on campus that accommodate 40 students. In addition, the renovation will include new computer labs, wireless technology, and a greenhouse. Faculty offices will be better arranged and suited to facilitate dialog with students outside the classroom. Lance Risley, professor and chair of the Biology Department, continues to serve as a faculty liaison, or project "shepherd," representing the interests of the building's users.

In August 2010, the campus unveiled the largest solar energy installation at any university in the country. The 3 Megawatt installation, developed in conjunction with Sundurance Energy, covers five surface parking facilities and two roofs. In addition to the ongoing commitment to the environment, the University anticipates saving \$4.3 million dollars in electricity costs over the next 15 years.

In September 2010, the University received a \$1.2M grant from the federal government to implement "smart building" technology in five mature campus buildings. The Atrium, Hobart Manor, Ben Shahn Hall, and Raubinger Hall will be upgraded with modern HVAC and lighting controls. These upgrades are expected to reduce annual energy costs by approximately \$310,000 per year. Work is expected to be completed within the next calendar year.

Other recently completed projects include the Raubinger Plaza site development project, which concluded the implementation of a pedestrian "spine" through the lower campus. Additionally,

the Valley Road facility had a new roof installed and is being considered for additional solar energy development.

More space and a more convenient campus location are the hallmarks of the Counseling, Health and Wellness Center's newly renovated facility on the ground floor of Overlook South. Occupying an entire floor of a wing of the residence hall, the Center is a state-of-the-art healthcare facility which includes four new exam rooms, and numerous offices where counselors and other medical professionals are available to meet with students.

Health services include clinical and sports physicals, care for illness and injury, immunizations, lab services, referrals for specialty or emergency care, HIV testing, and men and women's health services. Counseling services help students deal with such issues as managing academic stress, time management, issues with self-esteem and doubt, and depression. The Center is staffed with a physician, a nurse practitioner, several registered nurses and licensed psychologists, and licensed clinical social workers. Having all services under one roof fosters a holistic approach to wellness.

Other ongoing projects include a new recreational facility between the two largest residence halls, Overlook North and South, which is scheduled for completion in January. Scheduled to start in January, is the full renovation of Morrison Hall and the partial renovation of Raubinger Hall, which will consolidate enrollment services and academic services, now dispersed throughout the campus.